



News Release from Congressman

ROB SIMMONS

SECOND DISTRICT, CONNECTICUT

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SIMMONS ANNOUNCES \$637,500 FOR PORT OF NEW LONDON

*First-Ever Award Only Possible Thanks To Simmons' Successful Efforts
To Add Port To List Of 100 "Most Critical Seaports"*

WASHINGTON, DC – Rep. Rob Simmons, R-2nd District, today announced that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has awarded \$637,500 to the Port of New London as part of the DHS Port Security Grant (PSG) program. As a member of the House Homeland Security Committee, Simmons in July successfully advocated adding New London to the list of seaports eligible for federal port security grant funding.

"Many of our nation's most critical assets surround the Port of New London," Simmons said. "Subase New London, Electric Boat, Pfizer, two operational nuclear power plants, the Coast Guard Academy, and transportation facilities such as Amtrak and I-95 make New London one of the nation's most critical seaports. Today, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security has put forth an important first federal investment toward beefing up security at the Port of New London."

The PSG program provides more than \$168 million in port security grants to create sustainable, risk-based efforts for the protection of critical port infrastructure from terrorism. In July, the Port of New London joined the nation's 100 most critical seaports eligible to participate in the port grant program – including the ports of Bridgeport and New Haven.

The Port of New London was deemed eligible by the U.S. Coast Guard who developed the Port Criticality List using commercial, demographic and geographic data from various sources. Factors such as cargo and passenger volume, the presence of critical infrastructure and key assets, and strategic importance were among the criteria utilized in the determination.

Simmons concluded, "For years, I have pushed to include the Port of New London among our nation's most critical seaports. And we got it done. I am proud to have worked with Gov. Rell and state homeland security officials to secure this vital federal security assistance."

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